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PATENT

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number | 09/755,312 |
| Filing Date | December 19, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | John E. Maloney |
| Group Art Unit | 2683 |
| Examiner Name | William D. Cumming |
| Attorney Docket Number | 000190 |

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JAN 11 2006

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicants may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.34(b) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 63 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 63 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 30, 2000), 1238 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which eliminated RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply filed on January 11, 2006
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other

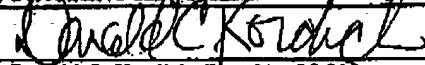
2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(f) required)
- b. ☐ Other

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 which the RCE is filed.

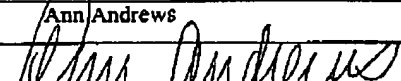
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 17-0026
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.117)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|------|------------------|--|--|
| Date | January 11, 2006 | Signature |  |
| | | Donald C. Kordich, Reg. No. 38,213 Phone No. 858-658-5928 | |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

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| Name (Print Type) | Ann Andrews |
| Signature |  |
| Date | January 11, 2006 |

Send all correspondence to Customer No. 823696 at the following address:

QUALCOMM Incorporated
Attn: Patent Department
5775 Morehouse Drive
San Diego, California 92121-1714
Telephone: (858) 658-5928
Facsimile: (858) 658-2502